



# Application Tape

## Premasking and Prespacing Tapes

### Product Bulletin

**Products** This Bulletin provides an overview of all 3M premasking and prespacing tape. All product-specific information is included in this bulletin.

|              |            |   |
|--------------|------------|---|
| Product Line | premasking | 3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-19<br>3M™ Premasking Tape SCPM-44X                               |
|              | prespacing | 3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-2<br>3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-55<br>3M™ Prespacing Tape SCPS-100 |

**Product Characteristics** These are typical values for unprocessed products. Contact your 3M representative for a custom specification.

|                        |                     |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Physical & Application | Material            | paper                                 |
|                        | Thickness (paper)   | 110 µm to 120 µm (0.11 mm to 0.12 mm) |
|                        | Adhesive type       | pressure-sensitive                    |
|                        | Adhesive appearance | clear                                 |
|                        | Adhesion            | 1.75 to 3.5 [N/25mm]                  |

Each tape has a different adhesion, designed to work with the films, inks and graphic protection as recommended in this bulletin.

Application method dry only!

**Usage Recommendations** Application tape is not required for all films or types of application. It is even specifically not recommended for certain films or application. The type of premasking or prespacing tape to use depends on the type of graphics produced and the last component (ink, overlaminated or clear) that was applied to the graphic construction.

When to use an Application Tape An application tape can reduce stretching, wrinkling and air entrapment during hand application of the graphic. Typically we recommend the usage of an application tape when the graphic meets at least one of these criteria:

- graphic construction is less than 100 µm
- striping or intricately-cut graphics
- cut graphics; eliminates the time consuming layout of individual parts on the application surface.

**Important!**

Always check for ease of part pick up before releasing the job. This is particularly important if the cut graphics include small letters, narrow stroke letters or intricate designs.

Graphic film with 3M™ Controltac™ Adhesive and/or 3M™ Comply™ Adhesive should not be removed from the liner and then be reapplied to the liner. These key application features will be lost if you prematurely remove the liner.

Do not use an application tape for graphic installations on textured substrates. The graphic may not have enough initial adhesion to the substrate to allow tape removal without lifting the film of the substrate.

| <b>Surface</b>   | <b>PREMASKING<br/>Large format<br/>( &gt; 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> )</b> | <b>PRESPLICING<br/>Small format<br/>( &lt; 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> )</b> |
|--|---|--|
| Most unprinted<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ and 3M™ Controltac™ Films   | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| Graphics with exposed 3M™ Comply™ Adhesive liner   | SCPS-55   |  |
| Premium 3M™ ElectroCut™ Films<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ Opaque Graphic Film Series 100   | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| 3M™ Scotchprint® Wrap Film Series 1080   | SCPS-55   |  |
| Glass decoration films<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ ElectroCut™ Dusted/Frosted Graphic Film Series 7725SE   | SCPS-55   |  |
| Mirror films<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ ElectroCut™ Mirror Graphic Film Series 7755SE-400<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ Translucent Mirror Film 7755SE-520  | SCPS-2  |  |
| Intermediate and promotional ElectroCut™ films<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ Graphic Film Series 30<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ General Purpose Graphic Film Series 50<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ Translucent Graphic Film Series 2330<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ ElectroCut™ Graphic Film Series 5525SE-300 | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| Most overlaminates   | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| Thick overlaminates<br>(i.e. graphics for floors)  | not required  |  |
| Overlaminates for window graphics<br>3M™ Scotchcal™ Optically Clear Overlaminates 8914i  | not recommended   |  |
| Solvent inks, not clear coated   | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| Most solvent clears  | SCPM-19   | SCPS-100   |
| 3M™ Overprint Clear & Edge Sealer 1955ABC  | SCPS-100  | SCPS-2   |
| 3M™ Controltac™ E-Film with Comply™ Adhesive 3545C with solvent clear  | SCPM-44X  | Do not use this products for prespaced graphics                    |
| UV inks, not clear coated  | SCPM-44X  |  |
| Most UV clears   | SCPM-44X  |  |

## Shelf Life, Storage and Handling

**Storage conditions!** Tape ages especially when stored at elevated temperatures. Its adhesive becomes more aggressive.  
Unrolling the tape during mechanical application can cause the tape to stretch resulting in pop-off and curl of the graphic. If graphic film applied with tape has been improperly stored, the removal of the tape after graphic installation might be more difficult and result in edge lifting.

**Unused application tape** Shelf life is 1 year from the date of purchase in a cool, dry place out of sunlight.

**Graphics with application tape applied** After the tape has been applied store the graphic in a cool, dry place out of sunlight. Store flat or wrapped onto a core with a minimum diameter of 150 mm (6").  
Very stiff films (i.e. reflective material) store flat only.  
Apply the finished graphic within one year from the date of its processing.

### Additional Information

Visit the web site of your local subsidiary at [www.3m.co.uk/graphicsolutions](http://www.3m.co.uk/graphicsolutions) for:

- details about 3M MCS Warranty and 3M Performance Guarantee
- additional instruction bulletins
- a complete product overview about materials 3M is offering.

## Health & Safety

Refer to the package label and the Material Safety Data Sheet for health, safety, and handling information on the products referenced in this bulletin. For 3M products, if necessary, you may contact our Toxicology/Product Responsibility Department on 01344 858000.

## Important Notice to Purchaser

The 3M products described in this publication are covered by a 3M warranty and limitation of liability.

3M's warranty provides that if 3M finds that goods are defective in material or workmanship they will be replaced or the price refunded at 3M's option but note that 3M does not accept liability for other direct losses (except for personal injury or death) or consequential losses relating to defective products or from information supplied by 3M.

Purchasers and users of 3M products, and not 3M supplying companies, are always solely responsible for deciding on the suitability of the 3M product for their required or intended use.

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